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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The group of East German metallurgical employees under Ferdinand Schreiber which is currently in the USSR on a study tour did not travel to the Ural Mountain district but to Zhdanov on the Sea of Azov. Upon arrival in Moscow, the group was told that they would visit the Azov Steel Combine in Zhdanov, which is under the direction of a large group of old-line personnel.

2. The entire delegation was divided into three groups upon arrival at the Azov Steel Combine: a blast furnace group, a steel mill group, and a sintering installation group. Since the delegation was without an interpreter, some difficulties arose, and the director of the Azov Steel Combine provided each group with a Soviet who understood some German. Members of the groups also took two hours of Russian instruction three times per week. The training which the Schreiber groups are receiving is based on the new Soviet training plan for metallurgists. Each group is trained in its particular specialty, and each has assigned to it as group leader an experienced Soviet engineer. The Soviet group leaders give two hours of theoretical instruction four times weekly. Practical instruction consists of familiarizing the German study groups with each and every part of the installations on which they work. Karl Franke's group, which is studying sintering installations, is going through the Azov Steel Combine's sintering mill section by section, with each week devoted to one section of the installation. Members of the group are permitted to see any drawings and blueprints they want to and are permitted to sketch any parts of the installation they desire.

3. The Azov Combine's sintering installation is a conveyor installation which has been in operation for six months; it is allegedly the most modern mill of its kind in the USSR. Production runs smoothly and amounts to 1,500 to 1,800 metric tons per day; on some days production even amounts to 2,000 metric tons. Control of production is extremely strict and operates on a scientific basis. Control of the production process begins at the ore bunkers and continues to the final sintering process.

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4. The sintering installation uses only coke from blast furnace sifting (Hochofenabsiebung). When delivered, the coke is granular in form, with an average diameter up to 30 mm. It is then ground by a four-roller crushing machine; two of the rolls do preliminary crushing and the other two final crushing. The preliminary rolls reduce the coke to grains 6 to 10 mm in size; the final rolls crush the coke until it is up to 3 mm in size. The quality of the coke is considered the most important factor in the sintering process, and granulation of the coke is strictly controlled by the plant management.

5. The sinters (Agglomerate) are divided into the following three types:

Type 1	Fe 54 percent Fe O 19-25 percent Rattler test: up to 26 mm
Type 2	Fe less than 54 but not below 50 percent Fe O 17-19 percent Rattler test: 26 to 30 mm
Type 3 (called Prack-Ausschuss)	Fe less than 50 percent Fe O less than 17 percent Rattler test: more than 30 mm

The blast furnaces will pay the full price for type 1, half price for type 2, but will not use type 3 at all.

25X1 6. [redacted] the production plan of the sintering installation at the Azov Steel Combine was fulfilled 107 percent; 2,100 metric tons of Type 2 and 180 metric tons of Type 3 were produced.

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